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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/603,323 | 06/26/2000 | Fang Sun | 1179/2/2 | 3143 |
| 29739 | 7590 | 09/09/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| SMITH MOORE LLP | | | RAJGURU, UMAKANT K | |
| P.O. BOX 21927 | | | ART UNIT | |
| GREENSBORO, NC 27420 | | | PAPER NUMBER | |

1711

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

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SUN, Fang et al

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| EXAMINER |
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U. K. RAJGURU

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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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Commissioner for Patents

The amendment filed on May 17, 2004 canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). The remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention because claims 1-6 are directed to a water sorptive product and claims 14-19 to a method for improving centrifuge retention capacity property of wet-laid water sorptive product. These two inventions are not related because they have different modes of operation.

Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Umakant K. Rajguru whose telephone number is 571-272-1077. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck, can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Sep. 01, 2004

James J. Seidleck

James J. Seidleck
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Technology Center 1700